

in 2019, so now children with medical complex needs can access better and more coordinated care, which will improve health outcomes, lower costs, and make families lives easier.

I have the deepest gratitude to Caroline and Tish for their sacrifices in helping address the unique challenges my neighbors with medically complex conditions face under the health care system to bring the best care. Caroline is survived by her parents, Tish and Bill West; her siblings, Billy, Drew, and Mallory; and many family members and friends who were all very dear to her. Additionally, I want to extend my gratitude to the medical team that helped Caroline and her family through this journey.

Keri Eisenbeis, BayCare Health System's Chief of Staff and Chief Communications Officer, emphasized the West Family's dedication to advocacy, stating that "the West Family, including Caroline, have been tireless champions for medically complex patients, including those at BayCare's St. Joseph's Children's Hospital." In addition to extending their condolences, they "mourn Caroline's passing, but celebrate the legacy of advocacy she inspired which led to the passage of the ACE Kids Act."

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my sincere condolences to Caroline's family and friends. She will be remembered by her warm smile and contagious laugh. Caroline was taken from us too soon, but she leaves with us infinite life lessons and an immeasurable impact on those who knew and loved her.

Rest in peace, Caroline.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF STEPHEN WISE TEMPLE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize the outstanding achievements of Stephen Wise Temple on the occasion of its 60th anniversary. Since its founding by Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin in 1964, Stephen Wise Temple has grown to become one of the strongest pillars of the faith community in Los Angeles. Stephen Wise Temple's core principles of creativity, inclusivity, and generosity truly embody the values of its namesake, Rabbi Stephen Samuel Wise, and further the mission of tikkun olam, "repairing the world."

The history of Stephen Wise Temple serves as a testament to the American ideal that greatness can spring from humble origins. Initially, the congregation consisted of just 35 families and lacked a permanent location. Through the dedication of Rabbi Zeldin and the perseverance of its members, the Temple never once faltered in its conviction to provide a place for the Reform Jewish community of Los Angeles, until finally, in 1969, the congregation moved into its current home in Bel-Air, overlooking one of the most beautiful views in all of Los Angeles.

Under the stewardship of their outstanding clergy, including Senior Rabbi Yoshi Zweiback; Rabbis David Woznica, Ron Stern, Sari Laufer and Josh Knobel; Senior Rabbi

Emeritus Eli Herscher; and Cantor Emma Lutz, Stephen Wise Temple today provides a spiritual home for Southern California's Jewish community. It is a place where people connect with their faith, with their neighbors, and with the State of Israel. Now more than ever, people also turn to Stephen Wise Temple for courageous moral leadership.

In the face of rising bigotry and hatred, Stephen Wise Temple has worked to increase awareness of antisemitism in our local communities and to combat its normalization through educational initiatives and interfaith partnerships. Last year, they also convened an important discussion of international efforts to combat antisemitism with European representatives.

"The Wise Way Forward", as it has come to be known, is perhaps best personified by the Temple's Center for Tikkun Olam, which advocates for efforts to promote climate justice, prevent gun violence, and provide food relief for the homeless. Additionally, in partnership with Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), the Temple also works to assist newly housed veterans by providing them with furniture, appliances, and other amenities to help them transition off the street and into new homes. In sickness and in health, in sorrow and in joy, Stephen Wise Temple and their congregants answer the call to serve.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Stephen Wise Temple and join in celebration of this momentous anniversary.

HONORING LAUREN COUGHLAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor Lauren Coughlan, a dispatcher with the Vacaville Police Department. I have named Ms. Coughlan as a Public Safety Hero of the Year for Solano County in California's 4th District as a result of her extraordinary selflessness, dedication, and service to others.

Ms. Coughlan was born in California and from an early age had a desire to become a police officer and help our community. Last year she completed her bachelor's degree in emergency management and plans to continue her education with the goal of earning her master's degree in clinical psychology.

Ms. Coughlan's law enforcement career began in 1998 when she was 16 years old as a Vacaville Police Department cadet. She later served as an intern for the department assigned to Patrol, Records, Property & Evidence, Crime Prevention and Dispatch until she was hired as a full-time dispatcher in July 2003. In 2016 she was promoted to communications supervisor of the Vacaville Police Department, where she presently serves.

Ms. Coughlan attended a 3-day Yoga for First Responders training in Colorado, with the intent to bring it back and help local first responders alleviate their high stress levels. On June 21, 2023, she achieved this goal by hosting a yoga class at the Solano Events Center, for members of the Solano County Sheriffs Office, Solano County Probation Department, California Highway Patrol, Fairfield Police Department and Vacaville Police De-

partment. She additionally assisted in teaching classes at the Fairfield Police Department, California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System Users Group Raining conference and multiple classes at the Vacaville Police Department.

Ms. Coughlan is an active member of Solano Family First Responders, a nonprofit organization supporting the first responder community and their families. She also is an assistant team leader with the Emergency Tactical Communications Team, responding with SWAT to critical incidents and a member of the Vacaville Telecommunicator's Emergency Response Team, responding to dispatch mutual aid requests throughout the state during wildfires and other major events.

Ms. Coughlan is an active member in our community, regularly managing and presenting 9–1–1 presentations for kids at local elementary schools and other community outreach events such as First Responder's Day at Hemlock Elementary School and National Night Out. She coordinates and participates in the communications center's annual tree donation for Festival of Trees. She also played a major role in coordinating the New Year's Eve fundraising event for retired officer Walt Simon and plays a supporting role in many other fundraising events supporting first responders.

Ms. Coughlan currently lives in Vacaville with her foster puppy, Sundae, and enjoys traveling in her spare time. She is proud of her Irish heritage and dual citizenship. Ms. Coughlan is passionate about mental health, wellness, and resiliency. She plans to focus on continuing her education and training in resiliency and the neurobiology of stress and trauma in the first responder environment.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ms. Coughlan for her persistence, service, and commitment to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

RECOGNIZING TALLMADGE MAYOR DAVID KLINE

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to David Kline on his service as the Mayor of Tallmadge, and my sincere gratitude for all that he has done for the people of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, the "Birthplace of Champions." I have appreciated his partnership as we worked together to expand opportunity and deliver results for our shared constituents.

Mr. Kline's drive to lead is commendable, and I have no doubt that he has bettered countless lives as a result of his steadfast service. Throughout his time in office, he proved to be a true public servant and leader. He leads by example through his perseverance, compassion, and dedication to his role in the community.

As Mr. Kline goes on to continue serving our community in new ways, I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. On behalf of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, I thank Mr. Kline for his commitment to the people of Tallmadge and to Northeast Ohio.

RECOGNIZING WHEAT RIDGE CYCLERY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wheat Ridge Cyclery for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Business of the Year Award.

Wheat Ridge Cyclery has been a pillar of the Wheat Ridge community since 1973. Now in their 50th year, they employ over 80 individuals and are the largest and oldest independent bike shop in Colorado.

Their philanthropic endeavors include sponsoring the Colorado High School Cycling League and the Colorado Mountain Bike Association and providing paid advocacy days for employees to assist in trail stewardship efforts. Wheat Ridge Cyclery also partners with Bicycles for Humanity to collect bikes that would have otherwise been thrown into Colorado landfills. These bikes are taken to Bicycle Empowerment Centers in Africa to help provide basic transportation and mobility. Wheat Ridge Cyclery's continued support to communities near and far is commendable and greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Wheat Ridge Cyclery on the accomplishments that led to this prestigious award. We are grateful for their continued contributions to the Wheat Ridge community.

PANCYPRIAN ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA'S 2024 PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the PanCyprian Association of Florida's 2024 Person of the Year, Savas Tsivicos. A native from Cyprus, Mr. Tsivicos currently serves as Supreme President of AHEPA, the largest Hellenic-American organization in the country which has just celebrated its 100th anniversary last year. I'm proud to call myself an AHEPAN, a devoted member of the Tarpon Springs, George Washington Chapter No. 16. As the longest-standing Hellenic-American organization, AHEPA has helped to assimilate and educate Greek immigrants, like my grandparents, as they arrived in America. AHEPA has a lot to be proud of—its good works have elevated the stature of American citizens of Greek ancestry since its first convention in Atlanta in 1923. AHEPA has served as a beacon of all that is true and good about our culture.

As a member of Congress, I have come to rely upon AHEPA's advice and counsel on a variety of issues, especially as it relates to my work as Co-Chair of the Hellenic Caucus and Congressional Hellenic-Israel Alliance. Together, we have worked to strengthen U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus, secure religious freedom and protection for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and promote solutions for Cyprus. With Mr. Tsivicos at the helm, AHEPA has continued to lead on the world stage call-

ing out the intransigence of Turkey's President Erdogan. It has joined in the fight to prevent the sale of F-16s and F-16 modernization kits to Turkey. And, I am confident, that he will lead AHEPA to continue its work as an important partner in the charge to ensure the United States stands firm in its commitment to defend Greece against Turkish aggression.

Domestically, AHEPA concluded an eight-year campaign that donated 20,000 gallons of milk to assist victims of the Flint Water Crisis and helped neighbors recover from the East Palestine train derailment through a \$7,500 donation; surpassed \$1 million to sponsor over 100 service dogs to help veterans who suffer from PTSD, collectively awarded millions of dollars in scholarships annually; and is set to begin work on two new affordable senior housing communities sponsored by chapters in Des Moines and South Bend.

I subscribe to the old Greek proverb that a society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit. The AHEPA pioneers who more than 100 years ago had a vision of eradicating bigotry and discrimination by promoting the ancient Hellenic ideals of education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, family and individual excellence to encourage a more perfect society are beaming with pride from above. The fruits of their vision and their labor continue to prosper because of the efforts from those, like Mr. Tsivicos, who carry forth the mission throughout our country. Again, congratulation to the entire organization and to Mr. Tsivicos on leading AHEPA to have another productive year. I wish him continued success and many more years of fruitful educational, philanthropic, and civic endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the House floor on the afternoon of January 11, 2024, and the morning of January 12, 2024, because these two vote series conflicted with a funeral in Ohio that I attended to honor the life of a dear friend of mine, who sadly passed away recently. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 6; NAY on Roll Call No. 7; NAY on Roll Call No. 8; YEA on Roll Call No. 9; and NAY on Roll Call No. 10.

HONORING BAYARD RUSTIN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Bayard Rustin. His life was dedicated to civil rights advocacy, but because he was a gay man, his hard work and accomplishments were often shadowed.

Mr. Rustin was born in West Chester, Pennsylvania, where he was raised by his grandparents, Julia and Janifer Rustin. Julia was an active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

and Bayard was introduced to the fight for civil rights when he campaigned against the discriminatory Jim Crow laws.

In 1948, Rustin traveled to India to learn from leaders of the Gandhian movement on nonviolent civil resistance. He brought those skills back to his work in the United States, assisting in writing "Speak Truth to Power: A Quaker Search for an Alternative to Violence." This was one of the most influential pacifist papers of its time, though Rustin remained an anonymous contributor due to fear that his known sexual orientation would compromise readers' respect for his contributions.

Rustin was instrumental in organizing the March on Washington in 1962. And yet, other prominent organizers did not want Rustin to receive any public credit for his hard work. His other accomplishments include organizing a group called "In Friendship" to provide legal assistance to people threatened with eviction and being named the first president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization's A. Philip Randolph Institute, which works towards integration and unionization of African Americans into formerly all-white unions. Later in life, he went on many humanitarian missions to provide aid and care to refugees in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Haiti.

Despite never receiving the recognition he deserved, he kept organizing and campaigning for what was right. Rustin worked for his own rights as a Black gay man and promoted values of nonviolence in civil resistance.

His unwavering dedication and vision of a peaceful and equitable nation is a guiding light. Though he was never given the recognition he deserved in life, I ask us to honor him now.

RECOGNIZING VETERAN LAWRENCE DENNIS EGAN

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Egan. He courageously served our country in the U.S. Navy; then he came home to serve our community as a dedicated volunteer.

Larry was born in 1943 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma as the youngest of seven children. After moving to California, Larry enlisted with the U.S. Navy where he served a term as a hospital corpsman. Upon returning from service, Larry began his career in the sales industry. He held sales and leadership positions at Gallo Winery, Remy Martin, and other companies in the beverage industry. In the 1990s, Larry pivoted into business ventures, opening his own concession business, S&S Concessions.

In 2007, Larry began serving as the executive director of the Downtown Pomona Owner's Association. Throughout his 13-year tenure, Larry oversaw critical revitalization efforts for the City of Pomona, which include the return of the Pomona Christmas Parade and the Downtown Trolley. He retired in 2020, known as the "Downtown Pops" for all his revitalization efforts.

Sadly, our community is now in mourning. On Sunday, December 17, 2023, Larry passed away at home, in the company of his two